

****ICH/IFA Letterhead****

Date

We are pleased to write in support of Willis Dady's applications for Grant-Per-Diem (GPD) Bridge Housing and Service Intensive Transitional Housing. Willis Dady plays a vital role in our CoC through its varied services to people experiencing homelessness, and could make a substantially greater impact through the implementation of a GPD program.

Willis Dady provides emergency short-term shelter, case management, homeless prevention advocacy, outreach, and rapid re-housing services. Within 2018 Willis Dady will also begin to provide permanent supportive housing. Willis Dady aims to help each person they serve find housing stability. Willis Dady has long partnered with other area service providers to assist veterans experiencing homelessness, specifically working with the local VA homeless outreach team. For four years Willis Dady provided SSVF services in seven counties including Linn, as a sub-grantee of HACAP. Willis Dady was founded by a veteran who had been homeless for 25 years, and continues to prioritize all services for veterans.

Because of the extensive and efficacious services Willis Dady provides, along with their long-term commitment to serving veterans and ending homelessness among the veteran population, the Iowa Balance of State CoC fully supports the Willis Dady application for Grant-Per-Diem housing. Currently there are no GPD programs in this area, despite the fact that Cedar Rapids has the second highest population in the state. While gains have been made in ending veteran homelessness, additional resources such as bridge housing and service intensive transitional housing in Linn County/Cedar Rapids are essential to fully ending homelessness among veterans in Iowa.

As a committed CoC, we appreciate Willis Dady's mission-driven work, their history of collaboration with other providers in all arenas, and their sincere focus on ending homelessness in the region. We are eager to see this GPD program achieve success, and we encourage you to support this much-needed project.

Sincerely,

Name

Title